

REDMOND PARK BOARD
Minutes
May 1, 2003
Old Redmond Schoolhouse Community Center

I. Call to order

The regular meeting of the Redmond Park Board (RPB) was called to order by Chairperson Lori Snodgrass at 7:00 p.m.

Board members present: Chair Lori Snodgrass, Seth Kelsey, David Degenstein, Suzanne Querry, David Ladd; Youth Advocate Katherine Zak arrived at 8:10 p.m.

Absent and excused: Ann Callister

City staff present: Tim Cox, Manager of Parks Planning; Danny Hopkins, Parks and Recreation Director; Tom Trueblood, Recreation Manager; Roy Lehner, Park Planner; Lori Peckol, Planning Department

Citizen Guests: None

II. Approval of Minutes

The Redmond Park Board minutes of April 3, 2003 were approved with the following amendments:

- Page 1 header, location of the meeting: Old Fire House Teen Center
- Page 5, D, first sentence: delete "programming" and insert "participation in the park system."
- Page 5, D, second sentence: delete "an" and insert "any individual(s)..."

Motion for approval of April 3, 2003 Redmond Park Board minutes as amended by: Seth Kelsey

Second by: David Degenstein

Motion carried: 5-0 unanimous

III. Items from the Audience

None present

IV. Additions to the Agenda/Handouts

None

V. Old Business

A. PRO Plan Discussion

Kelsey stated that in the PRO Plan presentation to City Council there was much discussion around the survey. When Council asked why the survey wasn't larger, Carolyn Brown, survey consultant, explained there were no funds available to do a larger survey. Council asked those attending Board members for their recommendations.

Snodgrass reported that she, Kelsey and staff pointed out to Council that the PRO Plan is a tool, looking to be refined. The Board sees the revision as bringing things back into perspective. Snodgrass noted it was a good opportunity to reiterate that funding was severely limited, not only for the survey, but the PRO Plan revision process. Council requested citizen meetings for PRO Plan input. Snodgrass discerned a more positive shift in Council's reception to the plan.

B. Park Improvement Plan (PIP) Revisions

Hopkins referenced the PIP 2003-2013 Proposed Program handout. He noted page three had errors, but would be reprinted with changes and mailed to the Board. The first two pages reflected the adopted Capital Investment Program document. Projects on these pages are on the CIP and funded.

Hopkins noted the shop site data was missing from page one. It has now been determined that the site will be a joint responsibility between Parks and Public Works, however, there are still several "unknowns." Agreement was reached for a purchase price of \$1.3 million. City Council will decide the funding source. Parks is working with Public Works regarding a site clean up schedule.

Referencing the PIP, Hopkins explained the revenues and short falls, summarizing parks' shortfall of \$44 million over the next 10 years. He noted the PIP is a "quasi wish list." Staff will prioritize those projects over years 3-6 and years 4-7. In two to three years, however, there would be a funding concern.

Kelsey supported either securing financing or issuing a bond to fund the \$44 million needed to get the projects done and to capture all the needs. Hopkins responded that not all projects would have to be done in 7-10 years, so the cost could be less—page three reflects potential long-term projects. Cox concurred, and he noted that the PIP would replace Tables 61-64 in the current PRO Plan, incorporating some of those items on the PIP. He noted that about half of the projects on the tables have been completed.

C. Park Board Award

Due to Ann Callister's absence, this discussion was postponed. *Snodgrass asked members to e-mail her or bring to the meeting next month any ideas regarding criteria for the recognition award.*

D. Park Board Interviews

Members reviewed the two applications for the Park Board's vacant position. Ladd advocated recasting one more time for additional interest, holding off interviewing the present applicants. Querry asked staff to acknowledge the two applicants received and considered. *Cox will follow up with the Mayor's office, asking them to send out acknowledgements of applications received and to set up another advertisement.*

E. Parks and Human Services Committee - RPB Representative

Cox reported it was yet unknown whether or not the regularly scheduled PHSC meeting of May 7, 4:00 p.m. would be held. *If there is a meeting, he will follow up with an agenda to Park Board members. Querry volunteered to be on call for the May meeting; Cox will contact her.*

VI. New Business

A. Community Outreach for 2003 Comp Plan

Lori Peckol, Planning Department, presented the community outreach strategy as part of the major update of the 2003 Comp Plan. The last update was done in 1995. Sequence of the update will address policy updates needed in housing and transportation areas, followed by incremental decisions on other elements of the Comp Plan.

Peckol encouraged the Board to participate in the upcoming community workshops. The focus of the workshops will be on supply and diversity of new housing in Redmond (emphasizing affordability), traffic, and the vision for the community:

- 1) Housing Fair & Workshop, Monday, May 12: Discussion of what is projected with builders and developers who will show their products, and what type of homes would work on a neighborhood scale.
- 2) Redmond Design Day, Monday, June 2: Citizens will design their preferred future for Redmond and discuss with fellow neighbors. Mark Henshaw, architect, urban planner, and writer will head this workshop.

Following the workshops, the Planning Commission will review the input and focus on a recommendation for policy updates for land use and housing elements to City Council. In the fall, staff will work on the remaining elements.

Kelsey asked whether or not a moratorium would be considered until the policies are adopted and a master plan in place. He expressed concern that growth would still occur while time passes during the policy making process. Peckol replied the Council has not addressed this issue, although, she concurred, it was a difficult question. The benefits of a moratorium would need to be assessed. She believed that, at a city-wide level, a moratorium was not an issue that staff would raise, especially due to a downturn in development activity.

Degenstein inquired about the downtown master plan. Peckol clarified that the Comp Plan update process would move beyond the downtown to the City as a whole. The downtown master plan's focus is on transportation. The Comp Plan update would focus on development, land use policies, etc.

Cox noted that staff is working with the Planning Department while updating the PRO Plan since its policies, tables and maps would be included in the Comp Plan.

B. Idylwood Park Feasibility/Master Plan Introduction

Roy Lehner used an aerial view map of Idylwood Park to describe its features. Using an overlay, he showed recent improvements to the park. There is funding in the CIP to do planning for additional park improvements. The City will hire a consultant to work on the project. The following is a list of potential uses—all preliminary—subject to changes and input from the public:

- Children's play area
- Sand volley ball
- Picnic shelters
- Small boat access
- Fishing pier/dock
- Restroom/lifeguard space improvements
- Under or overpass from overflow parking lot
- Expand beach toward wetland
- Expand the parking lot

Lehner explained that a private/City partnership with a rowing center at Idylwood is being considered. A rowing association has approached the City with a proposal. The partnership would provide a public benefit, e.g., supplying meeting rooms, another restroom, etc.

Several public meetings are anticipated in the planning process. The neighborhood feels it is their neighborhood park, and it is used year-round.

Tom Trueblood, Recreation Division Manager, elaborated on the rowing center:

- It would be open to the public as a "quasi club-type" orientation to have water craft available for rent.
- The rowing people would hire an architect and fund the building.
- Minimum 65-foot long building that could be sunk into the ground.
- A long-term lease agreement would be held with the City.

- Through a contract with them (or separate) the public could rent canoes/kayaks.
- There would have to be several public benefits offered to be acceptable to the City.

Kelsey and Ladd expressed concern that the building could overwhelm the park and landscape. Trueblood clarified the existing house would be removed and the new building could sink into the ground. Kelsey suggested the existing house could be used as a center to display pictures of Redmond parks, or a place for meetings. Trueblood explained it would be very expensive to retrofit for accessibility. However, there would be a multi-purpose space for recreational activities in the rowing building. These items would be discussed in the public process.

The time schedule for a park feasibility plan may take approximately one year. Hopkins added he would like to see it completed about the end of 2003. Staff has a scope of work, and is in the process of securing a firm/consultant subsequent to review by the Mayor and City Council Committee. The Parks and Human Services Committee will be briefed about the plan. The public process will utilize the Park Board as a forum for input.

Snodgrass proposed having the public meetings at the existing Idylwood house. Hopkins supported the idea. He was interested in preserving the community/neighborhood flavor of the park.

Snodgrass asked staff to revisit this topic with the Board either in July or August, followed by public meetings in September. ***Staff will follow up.***

Lehner noted that the rowing people would move forward to double their size with a rowing center either at Idylwood Park or at their current location.

Ladd asked staff whether or not the City could install radar driven speed signs in the park area adjacent to West Lake Sammamish. Snodgrass suggested the Police Department could set up a mobile radar unit. Kelsey asked if street parking would be lost with the improvements. Cox replied it is not the intention of the West lake Sammamish Parkway project to lose the parking.

C. Finance Bond

Postponed due to Finance Department currently short-staffed.

Snodgrass explained that in her discussion with the Mayor, she emphasized that the Board would like to know funding options available besides a bond for park development or purchasing. She asked that the Board be educated with financing information before meeting with City Council. The Mayor recommended a meeting with herself, Lynda Crawford, Finance Department, and one or two Board members.

Snodgrass reported that City Council is not leaning toward a park bond this year or next. The June study session would be on the PRO Plan and PIP. Degenstein inquired how the City decided not to issue a bond this year. Trueblood responded that the funding for the new City Hall was a major factor, as well as the issue with the aquatic center: The pool project is no longer being considered for the next five years.

Kelsey expressed frustration that, where the Park Board used to come up with funding option ideas, now the City is "calling the shots." Snodgrass reiterated that the Mayor would be setting up a meeting with Crawford and two Board members to discuss the financial options.

VII. Reports

A. WRPA Yearly Conference Brief/Update

Roy Lehner, Park Planner, gave a report of the WRPA 2003 conference. It was attended by 330 recreational and park people—a good turnout—with two motivational keynote speakers. Redmond Parks and Recreation received four awards:

1. Award of Excellence: Redmond Recreational Guide brochure cover
2. Merit Award: The Edge Skate Park project
3. Honorable Mention: Watershed Restroom
4. Honorable Mention: Anderson Tot Lot

Lehner attended a class on partnershiping, using partnerships with schools and the federal government as past examples. Staff will get copies of their

contracts for possible future use. Lehner noted that former Redmond Parks and Recreation Director, John Couch, attended the conference.

B. Redmond Youth Partnership (RYP) - City Youth Program

Trueblood reported RYP has not been able to fund the program as they desired, and has not had the fulltime staff available. They approached the City asking to bring RYP in either as a City program or a YMCA program, with the caveat of keeping an identity of their goals and objectives.

City staff has met twice with RYP and could foresee interesting opportunities. Trueblood noted that the open position of Program Administrator of the Teen Center might be re-shaped to incorporate a broader base to foresee this program. RYP would prefer to work with the City, rather than the YMCA. The Mayor is very supportive.

RYP board would present to the PHSC before City Council. Trueblood envisioned an exciting partnership. RYP could not maintain full autonomy; rather, they would be as an advisory board on youth issues giving youth a voice. Trueblood could envision holding a "youth summit," which could kick off the partnership. RYP is currently without an executive director and therefore is idling. Hopkins clarified that the City is not looking to take over RYP, only to help them. Staff will write a letter to Council stating what RYP would like; then RYP would meet with Council to voice their request.

C. Department Awards

Because of the NRPA awards the City received last year, Hopkins has been asked to speak at National Cities Conference on September 19, 2003 and talk about parks and recreation programs. As yet, he has not accepted the invitation until he can talk further with them.

D. Project Updates

1. Grass Lawn - Phase II Bid

Hopkins reported that Grass Lawn Phase II bid openings came in slightly above the engineer's estimate at \$1.9 million (a doable bid). The above estimated bid may be due to the economy becoming a little stronger

recently. In comparison, several months ago Perrigo Phase I came in under bid.

Hopkins added that there would be \$9 million of park projects going on this summer, including the bridge over the Sammamish River and ORSCC renovations. Now that the bids are in for Grass Lawn and Perrigo, staff will look at the CIP to consider getting smaller projects done (e.g., Fire Station 11 plaza, etc.), or re-prioritize some CIP projects.

2. Coast Guard Small Park

Construction site preparations have begun for the small park, to include, a playground, sports court, picnic area, and trail.

E. City Council/Park Board Joint Meeting

Snodgrass reminded that the joint meeting with RTC, RAC, and the Park Board was tentatively scheduled for 5/21/03 at 6:30 p.m. at the Senior Center with a meal provided. Cox asked members if they would want to postpone the May 21 meeting until after the June 10 City Council/Park Board meeting in order to convey to RTC and RAC any information gained. Members expressed their views:

- Ladd: Have boards/commissions meeting after the meeting with Council so the Board could know any boundaries Council might set.
- Kelsey: Wait on the boards/commission meeting until after Council.
- Snodgrass: The May 21 meeting could provide additional opportunity to submit agenda items that RAC and RTC might want discussed.
- Ladd and Degenstein: Would not be present for a May 21 meeting.

Cox reported that RTC expressed preferably to meet before the Council/Board June meeting, but they were willing to go either way.

The Board concurred to postpone the boards/commissions meeting until after their 6/10/03 meeting with City Council in order to have more definitive input to give to RTC and RAC. ***Cox will notify RTC and RAC of the postponed May 21 joint board/commissions meeting. It will be rescheduled after the Park Board/Council meeting on June 10.***

VIII. Upcoming Items

- CIP Status Report
- Disc Golf
- Grass Lawn Phase II Bid Award
- PRSCC Bid Award
- Chapter 6 - PRO Plan
- Teen Center - May 9th, Friday at 6:00 p.m.
- Overlake Recreation Facilities

Snodgrass added the pool re-opening will be held Saturday, May 10, and she invited members to attend.

IX. Election of Officials - 2003 to 2004

Nominations were opened for Chair and Vice Chair positions for the RPB term 2003-04:

Motion to nominate and re-elect Lori Snodgrass for RPB Chair by: David Degenstein

Second by: Suzanne Querry

There were no further nominations

Motion carried: 5-0 unanimous

Motion to nominate and elect Suzanne Querry for RPB Vice Chair by: Lori Snodgrass

Second by: David Degenstein

There were no further nominations

Motion carried: 5-0 unanimous

Querry will attend the agenda setting meeting with staff next month in lieu of Snodgrass' absence from the June meeting.

X. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by: Seth Kelsey

Second by: David Degenstein

Motion carried: 5-0 unanimous

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Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

By: _____
Lori Snodgrass, Chair

Date

Minutes prepared by Recording Secretary, Pam Maybee

Next Regular Meeting

June 5, 2003

7:00 p.m.

Location: Old Redmond Schoolhouse Community Center